

[10 August, 2000]

RAJYA SABHA

June, 2000 to place before him various financial problems affecting their States. The Prime Minister did not make any formal address at this meeting.

**Interim report on the support to SSI Sector**

2148. **SHRI R.P. GOENKA:** Will the Minister of **SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES** be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Export Committee headed by the Planning Commission Member, has submitted an interim report on the support to be given to the SSI Sector while preparing them for global competition in view of the W.T.O. commitments for scrapping all quantitative restrictions on imports, effective from April, 2001; and

(b) if so, the major recommendations of the Committee and the action taken thereon?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE):** (a) Yes, Sir. A Study Group was constituted under the Chairmanship of Dr. S.P. Gupta, Member, Planning Commission.

(b) The major recommendations of the study Group relate to definitional changes, raising the corpus of Credit Guarantee Fund Scheme for Tiny Sector to Rs. 2500 crores, strengthening of State Financial Corporations, the enhancement of the excise exemption limit to Rs. 1 crore, the enactment of a separate Act for the growth and development of the small scale sector, conducting of third census of registered small scale units, creation of Technology Modernisation Fund, extending of greater marketing support to the small scale sector by the Government. These recommendations are being examined by the Government.